



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): YUKOH IWASAKI
Filed: FEBRUARY 12, 2002
Title: BLADE-LIKE CONNECTING NEEDLE
Serial No.: 10/074,202

Examiner: KARLSEN, ERNEST F.
Art Unit: 2829

98/Election
J. H. H. H.
4-4-03
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

Atty. Docket No.: 40010349-02

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

ELECTION OF INVENTION

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Action dated February 27, 2003, please enter the following election.

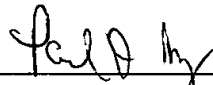
Claims 1-9 were restricted as claiming two patentably distinct inventions, namely group I, claims 1-6 and group II, claims 7-9.

Applicant elects to continue prosecution of group I, claims 1-6 in the present patent application.

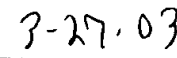
Applicant's election is made without prejudice.

The foregoing election does not result in a change of inventorship. Therefore, Applicant respectfully request entry of the election and a favorable allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul D. Greeley
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Attorney for the Applicant
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Date

2829



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Yukoh Iwasaki
Serial No.: 10/074,202
For: BLADE-LIKE CONNECTING NEEDLE
Filed: February 12, 2002
Examiner: Karlsen, Ernest F.
Art Unit: 2829

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
MAR 5 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 40010349-02

Box Non-Fee Amendment
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Transmitted herewith is an Election of Invention in the above-identified application.

Petition for extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.137 is hereby made if, and to the extent, required. The fee for this extension of time is calculated to be _____ to extend the time for filing this response until _____.

The fee for any change in number of claims has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid	Present Extra	Rate	
Total Claims	6	Minus	20	0	x \$18.00	\$
Independent Claims	1	Minus	3	0	x \$84.00	\$
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE				x \$280.00 = \$		
TOTAL FEE FOR CLAIM CHANGES				\$0.00		

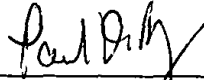
The total fee for this amendment, including claim changes and any extension of time is calculated to be \$ _____.

_____ A check in the amount of \$ 0.00 is attached.

XXX The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required with this communication or during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to **Deposit Account No. 01-0467**. A duplicate copy of this Form is enclosed.

March 27, 2003

Date



Paul D. Greeley, Esq.

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 31,019

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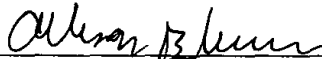
Telefax: (203) 327-6401

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON MARCH 27, 2003.

Allison Berkman

NAME



SIGNATURE

3/27/03

DATE